APPENDIX VII.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 470.)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DIWAN OF COCHIN.

LOCAL AND MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENT.

(Miscellaneous)

READ again Diwan's Proceedings Dis. No. 920/D/1101, dated 30th November 1925 ordering the Sub-Magistrate, Kanayannur, to conduct an enquiry into the incident alleged to have taken place in the Girls' Hostel.

Also (2) Report dated 11th January 1926. Confl: No. 1/1101, from the Sub-Magistrate.

Order dated 3rd March 1926, R. O. C. No. 2890/1101.

The Government have perused the report submitted by the Sub-Magistrate and they see no valid ground to differ from his conclusions that the version of the story as represented cannot be supported and that the clerks concerned are innocent.

2. The Principal of the Maharaja's College is requested to expedite the report promised by him regarding the future of the Girls' Hostel.

(True extract)

P. DAMODARA MENON,
Secretary to the Diwan.

To

The Sub-Magistrate, Ernakulam,
,, Principal, Maharaja's College.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja's Cochin Land Registration Amendment Bill.

President.—The next motion is of Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja for leave to introduce the Cochin Land Registration Amendment Bill.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I move for leave to introduce the Bill.

Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon.—Were the copies circulated to the members.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Only when leave is given is it published in the Gazette, and then copies are supplied to the members.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—How are we to know about it?

President.—I think it is the convention of the House.

Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon.—Especially, with regard to this Bill, there was a practical difficulty. A copy of the Bill was supplied to me by the mover himself, after he came here. In such important measures, it is but proper to introduce this Bill, after it has been published. Whether we would support or give leave to introduce the Bill is a matter to be considered

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Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I think a word of explanation is necessary in this matter. Contrary to precedent, I was asked by the Secretary to this Council to print and circulate at my expense copies of Bills among the members of this Council. I may say for the information of this House that there is no provision in the Regulation that it should be circulated by the Secretary or the mover. I relied on the precedent, and I got the following reply from the Secretary:

"Sir, in reply to your card, dated 13th Kumbham 1101, I have the honour to inform you that, under S. O. 29, the Secretary need send a copy of the Bill to the members only in case of a Bill published under Rule 29. Even in the case of Bills published under Rule 31, there is no such provision. Much less is there any provision with regard to the supply of copies of Bills which have not been given leave to introduce. The President has, therefore, decided that in the case of private Bills, copies need be supplied to the members only, if and when, they are published in the Gazette. In all other cases, the mover of the Bill is to make his own arrangements for the circulation of his Bill."

President.—In cases where leave was sought and subsequently the motion to introduce the Bill was carried, the Secretary had to supply the copies of the Bill.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—That was exactly the case with reference to three Bills which were introduced before.

President.—Perhaps, that may be due to ignorance on his part.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—If it is a mistake, and not a practice of the Council, I have no objection.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—A kind reference is solicited to an interpretation of the rule given in the *Bengal Council Proceedings*.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Why should we slavishly follow the Bengal Council Proceedings in all these matters?

President.—Your point is that you want it to be printed and circulated by the Government?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—If the Diwan has sanctioned it, why we should be put to difficulties for the printing and publication of the same? Of course, if it is printed by us, we can publish it also.

President.—Should we not inform the members previously of the nature of the Bill regarding which the motion has been permitted, instead of giving them the required information about the nature of the Bill on the spur of the moment. Of course, this printing and publication does not cost much.

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Correction slip No. 4 to the Cochin Legislative Council Proceedings, Volume II –Part 15.

M. R. Ry. C. A. Kunjunni Raja Avl., B. A. & B. L., M. L. C. (Land-holders has sent in a requisition for the issue of the following correction slip to the Cochin Legislative Council Proceedings, Vol. II. Though the report taken down by the Official Shorthand reporters does not contain any the slightest indication that the said letter was read, this is issued by direction, as the Member says that he read the letter he wrote to the Council Secretary before he read the letter the Secretary wrote to him.

At page 1288, line 7, insert the following, after the word "and":—"wrote thus to the Secretary to the Council on the 13th of Kumbham 1101:—

Sir,

Your letter R. O. C. No. 140 of 1101. You want me to supply you with copies of my bill regarding the Land Registration Amendment. Under Rule 30 of the Legislative Council Rules I am bound to submit only a copy of the bill and the rules do not provide that I should circulate copies among the Members as suggested in your letter and there is no rule that I should send you more copies than one. In case of three of the bills for which leave to introduce was sought in the Vrischigam meeting of 1101, the Members did not send more than one copy and still copies were printed and circulated by the Secretary. You will kindly refer to Vol. II, Part 4, page 286 of the Council Proceedings where you maintain that it is the duty of the Secretary to print and circulate copies to all Members. I do not know why there is the departure from your practice in my case with regard to this bill. Since I cannot find any rule that I should do this work I request you to let me know the section under which this claim is made on me or the reason for the departure. If the rules compell me to do so, I am bound to obey and will gladly do it. If not, I will be creating a bad precedent in this procedure of this Council."

Office of the Secretary to the
Cochin Legislatve Council,
Ernakulam,
6th October 1926.

T. K. KRISHNA MENON,
Secretary to the Council.

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Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—If it is to be printed by the Government it may order the publication of the Bill under Rule 29.

President.—When the publication is effected, leave to introduce need not be asked for, that is, the preliminary process can be dispensed with. The motion for leave has been made, and now the Bill is brought before the Council. The question before the House is whether it will not facilitate the working of the Council, if the concession of furnishing copies beforehand is extended to the members.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—In such cases it need not be published in the Gazette.

President.—Is there any objection to proceed with the Bill?

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I have already circulated the copies at my own expense, and I move for leave to introduce the Cochin Land Registration Amendment Bill.

Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon.—Sir, I second it.

President.—Any member wishing to oppose the motion? I believe there is no opposition. The motion was put to the vote of the House and carried.

Amendments to Standing Orders.

President.—The next item of business is certain amendments to the Standing Orders to be moved by Mr. K. T. Mathew.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Many of the non-official members are absent to-day, and so it is enough, if we read such amendments which the Government accept.

Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon.—Even that we could not do. There are only 20 members.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—According to the Standing Orders, at least 20 members should stand up, and so only those amendments which are acceptable to the Government need be read now.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Amendments (4) and (5), Government do not oppose.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What about (3), Sir?

President.—It is a controversial amendment. (4) and (5) can be accepted and may be moved.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—A point of order, Sir. Before indicating the necessary process and deciding that such and such amendments can be accepted, should they not be published in the Gazette.

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